

Appl. No. 10/604,203
Amdt. Dated March 3, 2006
Reply to Office action of December 9, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Based on the examiner's comments in the Office action dated December 9, 2005, Claims 1-3 are now amended to specify the starting materials explicitly disclosed in the specification, the hydrolytic enzyme and its mode of application. Claim 1 is rewritten to include "steps" that are characteristic of a method claim, and to distinctly point out the subject matter of the invention. The language in Claims 2 and 3 is appropriately amended to reflect their dependence on Claim 1.

Claims 4-14 are canceled. Claims 15 and 16 have been added to clearly claim the subject matter of the invention that was confusingly claimed in original claims 5-14. Support for new claims 15 and 16 is available in the original specification.

Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dr. Lakshmi Prakash
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